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Beach tragedy

Burlington man drowns; Windsor girl saved. Page 2

Artistic flair

Kathleen Thorsen opens art gallery in her home. Page 5

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Rarin' to go

Port Colborne Pirates coach Keith Osborne is ready to get started. Page 12.

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■ FIRE BOMBED

Firearm charge

DAVE JOHNSON
 InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Niagara Regional Police have charged a 53-year-old man with careless use of a firearm after his home was hit with Molotov cocktails early last Sunday morning.

see POLICE | A2

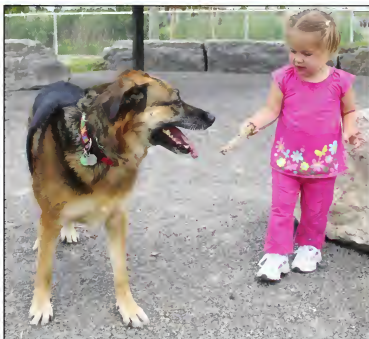
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MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Two-year-old Dakota Wright welcomes dog Bear to the leash-free dog park at the new Elm St. naturalization site, which held its grand opening on Aug. 18.

■ TRANSFORMED: Site has grand opening

Dogs run free at new park

MARYANNE FIRTH
 InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The former Elm St. landfill has gone to the dogs.

Dozens of pooches and their owners turned out last Wednesday for the grand opening of what is now the Elm St. naturalization site.

Since April, the property that once housed a compost/landfill facility has undergone a significant transformation, turning into a park-like setting similar to that of the Glenridge naturalization site in Thorold.

Now the 24-hectare site features more than three-kilometres of recreational trail, a large visitors pavilion, viewing platform, and two leash-free dog parks — one for small and one for large dogs.

The former landfill has been given "a new leash on life," Niagara Region commissioner of public works, Ken Brothers, said with a laugh.

The Ministry of the Environment, Niagara Region, City of Port Colborne, and local residents worked together to create a vision and bring it to fruition, he said.

see PARK | A2



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ROYAL LEPAGE

POLICE

Molotov cocktails thrown at home

FROM PAGE A1

Police say Ian Thomson, of 3499 Snider Rd., is alleged to have fired a handgun in attempt to ward off three suspects who threw the fire bombs at his home.

NRP media relations officer Nilan Dave says police and Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services were called to Thomson's home at 630 a.m. Sunday for a fire call.

Dave says the homeowners had been alerted by the sound of glass breaking and the shouting of small fires that had begun at locations on the outside of the home.

The fires were started when three unknown suspects threw Molotov cocktails at the home.

Though police couldn't confirm the number of Molotov cocktails, a source said there were up to six, though only three were thrown at the home before Thomson was awoken by the sound of smushing glass.

"This was not a random act," says Dave.

Three suspects in dark clothing fled the scene in a two-door, mid-sized, vehicle. A source says three men were wearing hoodies at the time.

Dave says there is no evidence to suggest that anyone was injured as a result of the gun being fired.

"The handgun was registered," says Dave.

Police, along with Port Colborne Fire and Ontario Fire Marshall's office, are investigating.

ing the incident and are seeking any information the public may have.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the police at 905-735-7811, ext. 3342. To leave an anonymous tip or information, please contact Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Calls are not electronically recorded or tracked, and Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to call display. Crime Stoppers can also be accessed on the Internet at www.crimestoppersniagara.com or through mobile texting by sending a message to CRIMES (274637) with the text reading: NIAGARA and then the message.

djohnson@wellandtribune.ca

DROWNING: Windsor girl saved; Burlington man drowns

Quick thinking

InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — It was the quick thinking of two off-duty nurses that saved the life of a 17-year-old Thursday afternoon.

The Windsor teen was swimming at Sherkenston Shores in Lake Erie when she appeared to have been overcome by waves and a strong undertow, Niagara Regional Police said in a press release.

She was pulled from the water with her vital signs absent, and revived by two citizens, who were believed to be nurses, said Const. Nilan Dave.

Niagara Regional Police, Niagara EMS paramedics and Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services arrived on

scene at 4:20 p.m. and transported the teen to Welland hospital.

Though she was examined and found to have water in her lungs, she's expected to make a full recovery, Dave said.

He added that police are very thankful for the actions of the two alert citizens.

The name of the victim has not been released, he added, but he said the names of the heroes, he did say they worked in the Niagara area.

The name of the victim has not been released.

Just over an hour after the near-drowning, a second incident occurred at Sherkenston — this time with a fatal outcome.

A 53-year-old Burlington man was swimming in Lake Erie when he began to experi-

ence difficulty in the water with the waves and undertow, said a police press release.

NRP, Niagara EMS, and Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services were once again called to the scene at 5:45, this time with Port Colborne Marine Auxiliary Rescue (Pocoman) unit and Erie County Sheriff's Department, with its helicopter, called in to assist.

The male, whose name has not been released, was located at 7 p.m., but attempts to revive him were unsuccessful, Dave said.

He encouraged the public to take into consideration the weather and water conditions before visiting local beaches for a swim.

PARK



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Paula Peyton and her children Noah and Hannah check out the bird's-eye-view map of the new Elm St. naturalization site.

Turning wasteland into green space

FROM PAGE A1

It was a "culmination of ideas and innovation" that turned "a 50-year-old wasteland into a green space the entire community can enjoy, including our family pets," said Mayor Vance Badawey.

"It's hard to believe that since the 1950s, this place was a garbage dump," he said, "but the park's green space acting as the backdrop."

The facility was originally closed in December 2008, after ongoing odour complaints from residents in the Port Colborne and Dain City area.

Regional Coun. Bob Saracino said he remembers some standing among mounds of garbage, where now only beautifully landscaped greenery exists.

As the property begins to mature and its popularity increases, Saracino said there's potential to further expand the site in the future.

Badawey said the region's more than \$800,000 investment on the property will ensure that local residents "continue to use this land in a valuable and productive manner."

"It was built for the people, by the people," he said.

He thanked members of the public liaison committee for helping to create the vision, and credited residents Mark McPherson and Rene Landry for bringing the idea of a dog park forward.

Badawey said the leash-free dog park is the first of its kind not only for the city, but for south Niagara as a whole.

He stressed to dog owners that the leash-free park is not located on the landfill, but on an undeveloped portion of the property.

"There's no danger to the pets, they won't be digging anything up."

McPherson and his border collie Fly were the first to enter the fenced dog park, both looking to mingle with other pets and pet owners.

Dogs need a place where they can come to socialize, he said, adding it's nice to now have a park to close to home.

"It's a beautiful facility. I'm very happy with it."

He credits Fly for being his inspiration, motivating him to push to make the park a reality.

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It's a dog's life



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

The grand opening of the new Elm St. naturalization site, which was once a landfill, was held Aug. 18. Pictured from left are Niagara Region commissioner of public works Ken Brothers, Regional Coun. Bob Saracino, Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey, and David Smith, the region's associate director of waste management engineering.



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Cousins Dakota and Justice Wright spend some time with dog Bear at Port Colborne's first leash-free dog park.



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Port Colborne residents Rene Landry and Mark McPherson both advocated for the creation of the city's first leash-free dog park.

MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Dog owners Steve DiBartolomeo, Ella Scott and Pat McDougall introduce their pups to one another at the leash-free dog park in Port Colborne at the new Elm St. naturalization site.



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yourview Dangerous waters

When the winds whip up on Lake Erie, it can create some big waves.

And to some, those big waves are tempting. But the temptation to take a swim and maybe do some body-surfing in those big waves can prove to be a deadly one.

Last week, two people were sucked under the waters of the lake at Sheraton Shores.

For one, the quick thinking of two off-duty nurses helped a 17-year-old Windsor girl survive a near-drowning. Another, a 53-year-old Burlington man, wasn't so lucky — he died after being drawn under the water.

Niagara Regional Police, Niagara EMS paramedics and Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services were called to both incidents, but there was little they could do. In the first incident, the girl was already out of the water. In the second incident, waves were reported to be four feet in height and even with the assistance of a helicopter from Erie County Sheriff's Office and a boat from Port Colborne Marine Auxiliary Rescue (Pocomar) unit, there was little rescuers could do.

With waves four feet high, and possibly even higher, rescuers would be hard pressed to see someone in the water, especially if they were drawn under. Even from the deck of one of Pocomar's boats, it would be hard to spot someone. A FLIR (forward looking infrared) camera mounted on the sheriff's helicopter had the best chance of finding the man in the water.

But even with its quick response to the area, the man's chances of survival were low.

"What the teen girl and the man both failed to realize is that with wind and big waves come dangerous undertows."

Some beaches along Lake Erie's north shore are very dangerous in those conditions, the area around Sheraton happens to be one of the dangerous ones.

Something the two probably had no idea about. Even many local residents are probably unaware of the dangerous undertows that can develop on the lake's shores.

Const. Niran Dave, police media relations officer, said the public needs to take into consideration the weather and water conditions before visiting local beaches for a swim.

Even for the best swimmers, he said a strong undertow current or high waves can be hazardous.

"Be vigilant," he said, adding if people have any concerns with the water conditions, they should avoid swimming altogether or avoid going past waist depths.

We'd echo what Dave said and urge people unfamiliar with the area to check before going into the water during high wind and waves, or stay out of the water altogether.

■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

Thinking about maternal health

FATHER DAVID GRAHAM SCOTT
St Ignatius of Antioch Orthodox Church

The British Medical Journal, *The Lancet*, this spring published a report of a comprehensive study on maternal mortality. The good news was that from 1980 to 2008, maternal mortality had decreased by 35%.

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada noted in June that 80% of maternal deaths in low resource countries take place during delivery.

A McMaster obstetrician and director of the international women's health program, Dr. Jean Chamberlain Froese writes, "The hindrances to maternal care may, many, yet none are impossible to overcome. They include distance from health services, finances (cost of treatment, transportation), lack of drugs and supplies, excessive demands on women's time, and women's lack of decision-making power within their families."

Chamberlain Froese developed and implemented a plan of action to overcome such hindrances. She founded an international Christian ministry called Save The Mothers, which promotes the health and dignity

of mothers. Her charity's Canadian board of directors operates under the auspices of Intervoice Canada (www.saveamother.org).

Before establishing Save The Mothers, Chamberlain Froese worked as an obstetrician in Yemen, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Pakistan. While working in Uganda she decided to do something about decreasing maternal deaths.

After all that she had seen and learned, she knew that building another hospital was not the answer. The complexities and silence surrounding maternal mortality demanded social and cultural change. Together with her Ugandan colleagues she founded Save the Mothers, to educate local leaders on safe motherhood.

In 2005, Save the Mothers launched its first program, a Masters in Public Health Leadership, at Uganda Christian University, near Kampala. The program links leaders from various disciplines to form a network for lasting social change. It regularly gets five applicants for every seat.

Chamberlain Froese and her family spent four months of the year in Hamilton, where they attend an Associated Gospel congregation. They

live and work in Uganda the rest of the year.

In Africa women have a lifetime risk of one-in-6 of dying from pregnancy-related complications. Compare this with the one in 4,000 risk for women in the industrialized world.

Chamberlain Froese says that more women and babies have died of pregnancy or childbirth-related complications in the developing world over the past 25 years than have died of AIDS.

Save The Mothers' Ugandan program has won wide support and now has its first international students from Kenya. And the Harper initiative of putting maternal and child health (rather than abortion) as a G8 priority has increased awareness of

the great need for financial support for maternal health care.

Chamberlain Froese feels that "God's wind is behind" Save The Mothers. "I could talk to you for a day about the challenges. But it's just that real sense that God's behind it, that reminds me of the importance of continuing to seek his wisdom."

Wise men and women still seek Christ, who is "the power of God and the wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:24).

■ readers' views

Letters to the editor are a great way for residents and business to voice their concerns and, but lately, there have been more letters that have been made with the facts. Information, especially in this social media forum, must contain the facts, both good and bad. So with respect to the elimination of the on street parking along Main Street here are 'the facts'

Firstly, as an owner of two businesses along Main St., where the street narrows so much, I can qualify as someone who has experienced the negative impact the on street parking has had on me. I was witness to numerous close calls of customers trying to be pulled out of parking lots, only to be blocked by trucks in these on street spots.

Screeching tires and near misses are a on going occurrence along Main Street. Seniors trying to get out of their cars and cross a street with 14,000 cars per day, is a death sentence.

Especially between the weir bridge and Hill St., where the street narrows so much, and front doors to businesses are mere feet away from the road, the only solution to creating a walkable shopping district is to widen the sidewalks and eliminate these dangerous on street

spots. Many customers over the past six years have indicated that they thought Main St. was the downtown of Port, and frankly with the current condition of the sidewalks, buildings etc, they just drive on through, on street parking or not.

The revitalization of Main St. was centered on getting people to stop, walk, and discover all that Port has to offer. If you don't get them to stop, you won't get them to stop.

So, if you say people are not walking anymore is ridiculous. You only need to click on your mouse to get the real statistics that more and more people are walking and cycling than ever. If you stop at a mall, you will have to walk at least 50 steps to get to the door, so saying people can't walk 50 steps to a store is so out of touch. Perhaps those businesses complaining about access to their doors, the seniors should put wheelchair spots in their lots close to the door, instead of letting the owners' staff park there. Just a thought.

Thirdly, 16 dangerous spots are being eliminated between the weir bridge and Elm way, but 20 spots are being put in at the Robert Lot right adjacent to the weir warehouse and across from a restaurant,

who were concerned about their loss of six spots. Thirty-five, yes I said 35 spots are being put in a new lot where the old lot used to be. Another 12 spots are being updated at the corner of King and Main behind State Farm.

So, let's do the math. Remove 16 dangerous spots, add 67 clean accessible spots. How can anyone say this is not the best thing ever? A \$4.5 million dollar revitalization along the Gateway to Port is being made, walkable, accessible shopping/dining area.

Business owners with only their interests in mind, have to embrace positive change that will benefit everyone. This should not be about what is simple business owners want, but rather about what will benefit all of the businesses in Port. Getting people to stop and discover what Port has to offer is the only way to increase business for merchants. And by the way, five new businesses have opened on Main in the past six months. And there is no median being put down the middle of the road.

Get the facts.

Linda Streat
Port Colborne

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■ **ART:** Gallery owner Kathleen Thorsen opens gem

Art at the Stone House



George Duma
BY GEORGE

At art's sake. You've heard that before.

But artists really mean it when they say it. True artists do the work for the sake of doing the work.

For some, it's therapeutic. For others, it's a passion that extends from the soul. And yet for others still, it's a combination of the two.

Kathleen Thorsen has recently opened an art gallery in her home at the corner of King St. and Sugarloaf St. It's the beautiful stone house on the north-west corner - the oldest house in Port - and it's named, appropriately enough, The Stone House Gallery.

Open since May, the gallery is basically the entire front room of the home she shares with husband Bill Cutler. The couple has three children: Mink, 27, Aleksandra, 25 and Tristan, 21.

"It's best to sell out of your home," Kathleen explains, "because there's no commission."

Artists who sell their work out of commercial galleries may end up paying up to 50 per cent in commission fees.

"But you have to," she says. "They do all the promotion for you, all the setup, host the showings. It's a lot of work for them."

A native of Vancouver, Kathleen grew up in the bohemian neighbourhood of Kitsilano. It's the same

neighbourhood I lived in when I was on the west coast back in the late 1970s and it had a very artistic, funky vibe to it, a collection of artists, poets, writers, musicians and actors who frequented the coffee houses and organic markets on 4th Ave., Kitsilano's main drag.

Today, "Kits" has maintained its alternative-lifestyle feel but, like all the rest of Vancouver, it's an incredibly expensive place to live. In fact, it has become an extremely in-demand neighbourhood, with some of Vancouver's highest housing prices yet the lowest availability. Cheap it ain't.

"You couldn't buy this house there," Kathleen says in her Stone House art gallery. "Impossible."

Which is all the more reason why she appreciates her life here after coming to Ontario in 1980.

"Like Market Day every Friday," she says. "It's so beautiful here. And the history! I love going to Montreal and Quebec City."

see DUMA | A6



Kathleen Thorsen opened the Stone House Gallery this past May. Her artwork is stunningly beautiful.

GEORGE DUMA InPort photo

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■ DUMA

Owner of Stone House gallery in process of setting up a website

FROM PAGE A5

I first became acquainted with Kathleen's work last November at a showing she had at O's by the Water Gallery on the corner of the West and Clarence Sts.

I learned then she is a survivor of an extremely serious type of ovarian cancer. By

the time doctors made their diagnosis in September, 2008, the cancer was already at Stage 3.

I also learned then that as Kathleen recovered from the surgery and chemo that followed, she painted, and continued to paint some more. Her work is stunning, to say the least. After that showing at

O's, Kathleen donated a portion of all her sales to the Jurvinski Cancer Centre in Hamilton, the same organization she has credited with saving her life.

During my visit to the Stone House Gallery a couple of weeks ago, Kathleen introduced me to fellow artist Valerie Watson of Niagara Falls, who currently has some of her work on display at

the Stone House.

"We met at the School of Ideas, Linda Hawkins's art school," Kathleen says. The work of both artists is definitely worth a visit.

So far, Kathleen has been promoting the Stone House Gallery by word of mouth. However, she is in the processing of developing a

website.

So go. Take a look around, I'm guessing you'll probably walk away buying something because it's beautiful work.

The gallery's hours are Friday from noon-4, Saturday from 11-4 and Sunday from noon-4. You can also call Kathleen for an appointment at 905-834-9784.

Enjoy.

George Duma is a resident of Port Colborne and has spent 30 years in the newspaper business. He is currently a member of the journalism faculty at Niagara College. He welcomes comments and column suggestions and can be reached at: gduma@cgcn.ca



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■ CLUB RHEINGOLD: Club part of Welland's Folklore Festival

Young people needed

ALLAN BENNER
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE
— "This is my heritage,"
Adele Riedke said.

She also said she's been proud to represent her German heritage for the past five years as Club Rheingold's Folklore Festival princess.

"It's been an honour for me. I really have been enjoying it," she said last Saturday as hundreds of guests were being served schnitzel and chicken during the first open house held as part of the Welland Heritage and Multicultural Centre's 34th annual Folklore Festival.

Getting younger generations to celebrate their German heritage has posed a bit of a challenge to Club Rheingold, where German immigrants have been able

to gather for social events since the organization was formed in 1952.

Poor participation is making operating the facility on Yager Rd. difficult.

"Right now, there are not enough people to run the club anymore," Club Rheingold president George Frey said.

But board member Bob Randall said that is changing. He said the club is expanding its horizons and trying to "rejuvenate the place."

Besides traditional events, such as Oktoberfest, he said the club has opened its doors to other cultural events, whether they are German or not.

"We're trying to find more diverse things to do," Randall said.

Club Rheingold even held Latino dancing lessons, and an atachronists group cel-

ebrating Mediaeval life and traditions.

"We're trying to expand the interests to attract more people here, and I think it's worked fairly now up until now. We've had a lot of successes," he said.

Rheingold members also are promoting their club throughout Niagara, rather than just focusing on Welland and Port Colborne.

While people have complained that the facility is located in the middle of nowhere, Randall said Club

Rheingold actually "In the middle of everywhere." He said it's only minutes from communities all over the region.

The club has even managed to attract the interest of younger generations. Randall said youngsters often complain about having to attend events at the Yager Rd. building with their parents. But once they arrive, "all of the sudden they're having a great time."

benner@wellandtribune.ca



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo
Club Rheingold princess Adele Riedke holds a tray of schnitzel prepared by chefs, from left, Steve Lincz and Lee Enowski. They were preparing food for guests Saturday during the Welland Heritage Council and Multicultural Centre's Folklore Festival.

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INPORT NEWS



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AFTER LIFE



THE BACK UP PLAN

FREE BREAKFAST



JOE CSEH InPort News Photo
Bob Brochu, owner of a Subway restaurant at 230 Main St. West, gives a free breakfast to Brian Jones of St. Catharines last week. Subway gave away free breakfasts — a ham and cheese, egg, muffin melt and coffee — as part of a promotion. Brochu came into work at 5:55 a.m. last Thursday to get things started for a 7 a.m. opening, only to be greeted by customers waiting in line. He opened up an hour earlier and by 9:30 he already had over 400 customers with a steady flow of people still coming in. He even said a group of five kids rode their bikes all the way from Welland just for the breakfast. At left, Bob and Silvana Brochu, owners of the restaurant, waved to passing motorists trying to entice them in for the free breakfast.

READ: Children read more than 1,700 books



InPort News photo
Mystic Drumz performer Dave and volunteer Layne Weaver demonstrating a musical instrument that also looks like an alien from outer space.

Party for readers

For InPort News

WAINFLEET — In celebration of the end of Wainfleet Township Public Library's TD Summer Reading Club: Destination Jungle, a party was held last week. One-hundred-thirty-five children and adults enjoyed Mystic Drumz' world music

safari adventure's The Legend of Marshmallow Island.

They also watched a slide-show, collected their prizes and enjoyed a pizza lunch.

The library had the total of 144 children enrolled in the club this summer. They surpassed their reading goal with a total of 1,782 books.

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DAN GRABOWSKI D.D.



■ ELECTION

Voice for rural residents

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE
— Kate Leigh hopes to continue bringing the voice of rural residents to council chambers.

The Ward 4 Coun. filled her papers last Friday for the upcoming municipal elections, hoping to reclaim her seat for the third consecutive term.

Leigh, 52, hopes to see the completion of projects that have started during her time in office, such as the community improvement plans and the new health and wellness centre.

She has committed herself to ensuring the centre is completed "as directed, on budget, without tax debentures or tax levy."

In her role as councillor, Leigh finds fulfillment in helping to ensure "what needs to get done, gets done" to better the community for both residents and businesses.

The city's finance committee needs to be "reactivated,"

she said, in order to properly review and make recommendations to council regarding tender, awarding and purchasing processes.

She hopes to implement changes that will "encourage competition yet fairness for our local businesses."

If re-elected, Leigh also hopes to focus on the ongoing drainage issues found in Ward 4, which need to be addressed not only at the municipal level, but at the provincial and federal levels as well, she said.

"I know it's not glamorous work," she said. "The city has been making 'good progress' since dramaine Henriness joined staff, she said, but there's still a lot of work to be done."

"We are moving forward on some well thought out maintenance plans to address the concerns and I feel I have more to contribute to ensure this particular need is fulfilled."

As chair of the fire master plan, Leigh also feels she has much to contribute to the project, which she hopes to see through to its completion.

"The city is one year into the lengthy process, which takes about three years to complete, she added.

Once the plan is created, it will ensure the community, including rural areas, are prepared for all emergencies.

Leigh said she and Ward 4 incumbent Barbara Butters "bring forth the rural perspective" that council relies on. She looks forward to continuing being that voice in the future.

Leigh lives with husband Del York in their Ward 4 home. They have four children and four grandchildren.



Kate Leigh

■ ELECTION

Experienced leadership

JOHN VESSOVAN
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — This is the time for experienced leadership in the city, says Bill Steele.

"With the number of projects city council has underway and will be embarking on in the next year, we need experience, a strong voice and real responsibility to taxpayers," said Steele, who has officially announced that he'll seek re-election in Ward 1 during the municipal election set for Oct. 25.

"I promised during the last election that when it comes to large infrastructure projects we must be cognizant of the impact on tax rates, and what methods of funding we will use to make sure there is not a burden on the taxpayer or today on our children and grandchildren."

Steele, a native of Port Colborne who attended Port Colborne High School, has served on city council for 13 straight years.

It was during a recent walk with his wife Debby of 22 years on the sands of Nickel Beach

where he decided to make a pitch for another term in council chambers. "I had to make a decision," Steele said. "I'm proud

of the 13 years I've served."

Projects such as Main St. revitalization, the new health and wellness community centre, the downtown community improvement plan and the Catherine St. water main initiative are those the newly elected councilors and mayor will continue to tackle in the next term,

and Steele wants to be a player in it.

In this term of council, those projects have received about \$20 million in funding. "We have been able to leverage current reserves with these funds to modernize our infrastructure to the benefit of every citizen of our community," he said.

"These next four years are important to Port Colborne as we exit the current recession and continue to mandate to truly make our city a destination for new families, new industry and small business as well as being mindful and committed to current residents and business."

The 48-year-old president of the Port Colborne Sailors minor hockey system and former high school football player has three children: Mitch, 20, Mack, 17 and Riley, 12.

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■ **PASSPORT:** Trying to raise awareness

Experience Port

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Its aim is to get visitors and residents to explore the numerous cultural, heritage and popular tourism attractions and experiences located along Niagara's Lake Erie shoreline through a program launched recently.

Niagara's South Coast Adventure Passport is a joint marketing effort of the City of Port Colborne and Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce.

"Our adventure passport program is an innovative way to create awareness of the many tourism and cultural experiences Niagara's South Coast communities have to offer to newcomers and residents," said Mayor Vance Badawey.

The passport is a full-colour, high-impact promotional brochure that features 10 destinations in the Port Colborne and Wainfleet area and identifies the name, address and GPS co-ordinates of each. Sites include popular attractions, tourism destinations and commercial locations. At each stop, passport holders receive a trivia answer on their passport or have their passport punched. After acquiring a minimum of

seven validated stops, passport holders are eligible to submit their passport for entry into a prize draw which will be held following the close of the program on Nov. 30.

Some of the prize packages include: one night accommodation at Lake Breeze and Talwood Manor bed and breakfasts; \$100 gift certificates for @27 Restaurant, The Smokin' Buddha Restaurant, CanalSide Pub and Eatery, San Marco's Ristorante; two subscriptions (eight tickets) for the 2011 Showboat Festival Theatre Summer season; golf and ride for two at Port Colborne Country Club; and a gift certificate for The Spa Port Colborne.

"We are pleased to partner with the city on this unique and progressive marketing initiative," chamber president Mike Stott said.

Copies of Niagara's South Coast Adventure Passport are available at the Port Colborne Visitor Information Centre at 76 Main St. and at city hall, local attractions, businesses, bed and breakfasts, and neighbouring tourism information centres. Full details and prizes are available online at www.portcolborne.ca.

■ **TERRY FOX RUN:** Hoping to set a record

30 Shears for 30 Years

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Nancy Salvage needs nine more people to help set a new Guinness world record for most people shaving their heads at the same time.

Salvage, organizer of the Terry Fox Run in Port Colborne, said the event is called 30 Shears for 30 Years. And this year marks the 30th annual Terry Fox Run.

"We have 21 people right now and we want 30," she said. The Terry Fox Run takes place Sunday, Sept. 19 at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park with three- and five-kilometre routes. The run goes underway at 2 p.m. and the head shaving takes place at 1:30 p.m.

"Now is the time for people to start thinking about the run and maybe they'll consider shaving their heads."

Like the run, Salvage said there's no registration and no minimum pledge amount required.

"People don't need to feel anxious about collecting money, they can give whatever they're comfortable with."

She said the run is all about participation and people take part for different reasons, whether running for a family member who had cancer or just trying to raise money for cancer research.

As for the head shaving, this will mark the fourth year it has been done at the run.

The first year, 12 people, including Salvage, had their heads shaved. In the last two years, between seven and 12 people have done it.

She started planning the 30 Shears for 30 Years a year ago and contacted Guinness about it. A category was created for the most people shaving their heads at the same time.

Anyone wanting to be a part of the head shave or wanting more information can contact Salvage at 905-835-0442, or nancy.salvage@sympatico.ca.

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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COLBORNE
MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2010
NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE
Municipal Elections Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c.32, Sched.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Municipal Electors of the City of Port Colborne that nominations in the prescribed form are being received for the following offices:

- (a) **MAYOR** (one [1] to be elected at large)
- (b) **REGIONAL COUNCILLOR** (one [1] to be elected at large)
- (c) **COUNCILLOR WARD ONE** (two [2] to be elected by ward vote)
COUNCILLOR WARD TWO (two [2] to be elected by ward vote)
COUNCILLOR WARD THREE (two [2] to be elected by ward vote)
COUNCILLOR WARD FOUR (two [2] to be elected by ward vote)
- (d) **TRUSTEE FOR THE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA** (one [1] to be elected at large by the English Language Public School electors of the municipalities of the City of Port Colborne and the Town of Port Erie)
- (e) **TRUSTEE FOR THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD** (one [1] to be elected at large by the English Language Separate School electors of the municipalities of the City of Port Colborne, the Town of Port Erie and the Township of Wainfleet)
- (f) **TRUSTEE FOR THE CONSEIL SCOLAIRE DE DISTRICT DU CENTRE-SUD-OUEST** (one [1] to be elected at large by the French Language Public School electors of the municipalities of the City of Port Colborne, the Town of Port Erie, the City of Niagara Falls, the Town of Pelee, the City of Thorold, the Township of Wainfleet and the City of Welland)
- (g) **TRUSTEE FOR LE CONSEIL SCOLAIRE DE DISTRICT CATHOLIQUE CENTRE-SUD** (one [1] to be elected at large by the French Language Separate School electors of the municipalities of the City of Port Colborne, the Town of Port Erie, the Town of Pelee, the Township of Wainfleet and the City of Welland)

Nominations for the offices indicated in (a), (b), and (c) above shall be filed at the office of the Clerk, City of Port Colborne, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, Ontario.

Nominations for the offices indicated in (d) and (e) shall be filed at the office of the Clerk, Town of Port Erie, 1 Municipal Drive, Port Erie, Ontario.

Nominations for the offices indicated in (f) and (g) shall be filed at the office of the Clerk, City of Welland, 60 East Main Street, Welland.

A completed nomination in the prescribed form must be signed by the candidate and may be filed in person or by an agent on any day after January 1, 2010 and before September 10, 2010 when the Clerk's office is open, or on September 10, 2010 (Nomination Day) between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A prescribed nomination filing fee of \$200.00 for Mayor and \$100.00 for all other offices must be paid at the time of filing the nomination. The nomination filing fee shall be paid in cash or by certified cheque or money order payable to the municipality. A nomination must be certified by the Clerk before such person becomes a certified candidate for the office to which she or he is nominated.

In the event there is an insufficient number of certified candidates to fill all positions available, nominations will be reopened for the vacant positions only on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and such additional nominations, if required, may be filed in the office of the Clerk.

Electors are hereby given notice that, if a greater number of candidates are certified than are required to fill the said offices, voting places will be opened on the dates stated below for the purpose of voting (locations to be determined by the Clerk).

ADVANCE VOTES

Saturday, October 16, 2010 (10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, October 20, 2010 (10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

VOTING DAY

Monday, October 25, 2010 (10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

For more information please visit the City of Port Colborne website at www.portcolborne.ca.

Ashley Grigg
City Clerk/Returning Officer

4430207

■ JUNIOR B

Pirates' coach ready to get started

BERND FRANK
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Keith Osborne prefers learning curves to straight lines.

As he prepares to begin his second full season behind the Port Colborne Pirates bench as the junior B hockey team's head coach, the one-time NHLer would rather lose early in the regular season with 17- and 18-year-olds still young enough to learn from their mistakes than suffer an early exit from the playoffs with 20-year-olds "who think they know it all and are only in it for themselves."

"This league is all about development. You have to be prepared to let the young kids make their mistakes — and learn from them — early in the season. Hopefully, they won't be making the same mistakes once the playoffs roll around," the defending Golden Horseshoe Conference coach of the year said, rejecting the popular premise that "development" and "winning" are

mutually exclusive goals in the Greater Ontario Hockey Junior Hockey League.

Like Pirates' owner Tim Toffolo, who also serves as the team's president and general manager, Osborne believes the Pirates can still win their share of games today while developing players for tomorrow.

"You can do both, especially if you can develop a winning attitude in the dressing room," said the 41-year-old Osborne, who spent parts of two seasons playing with the St. Louis Blues and Tampa Bay Lightning during a 10-year professional career.

Osborne, whose coaching staff once again will include assistants Henry Dunn and Bryan Kelly, views his position with the Pirates as two-fold. Rather than focusing solely on developing players by honing their hockey skills, the Port Colborne coaches are also interested in helping the teenagers on the team mature into young men.

"We're out here to make these kids better as hockey players and as young men," the coach said. "You've got to remember

most of these kids are only 17 and 18 years old.

"They're still kids, there's still learning what it takes to become a young man."

"That is his good hand-in-hand with developing a positive team chemistry is not lost on Osborne, a strong believer in the axiom "always treat people the way you want to be treated."

"Listen to me, buddy, you don't live long enough in this life to have enemies out there," he said in an interview during a break at a training camp session last Tuesday night at Westside Arena.

Osborne and Toffolo became friends when they coached girls hockey together in Niagara Falls, and the Pirates owner regards the coaching staff as the team's "biggest strength" heading into the 2010-11 season.

"I said we're building this year's team from the net out, but it's real from the bench out. We have the best coaches by far in this league," Toffolo said.

see COACH | A13



NOTICE OF REVISION OF VOTERS' LIST
Municipal Elections Act, 1996 [s. 23(2)]

Beginning September 1, 2010, the Voters' List for the City of Port Colborne will be available for inspection at the locations listed below:

The Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte St., Port Colborne
between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The Port Colborne Public Library, 310 King Street, Port Colborne
during regular Library hours.

Every elector in the City of Port Colborne is asked to check the Voters' List to ensure that his or her name, school support and other relevant information is correct.

Please note that recent amendments to the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, have established specific voter identification requirements for the election. Voters are now required to show proof of identity and residency, in the prescribed form, at the voting places. To view a list of acceptable forms of identification please visit www.portcolborne.ca or contact the Clerk's Division at the Municipal Offices.

During the period from September 7, 2010 to October 25, 2010, an elector may make application to add, remove or amend his or her information on the Voters' List.

During the period from September 7 to September 10, 2010 a person may also make application to request that another person's name be removed from the Voters' List if the person is not an eligible elector.

An elector may make an application requesting changes, additions or deletion of their own name by completing the prescribed form (available from the Clerk's Office) and filing it in person or by his or her agent at the Clerk's Office during regular office hours or by mail to City Clerk, Municipal Offices, 86 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8. The application must be signed by the elector.

Ashley Grigg
City Clerk/Returning Officer

4430207

COACH

'Hockey sense is something you either have or you don't have'

FROM PAGE A12

"Any player who gets an opportunity to be coached by Keith should consider himself privileged," Tofoledo said.

As many as 18 players are eligible to return for another season, including Joe Gladnick, who came into training camp earlier this week as Osborne's clear-cut choice as the No. 1 goaltender after posting an 11-13 record, 4.52 goals-against average and an .885 save percentage in 31 games last season.

Toppling the team's shopping list as it assesses the upwards of 60 prospects who came out for tryouts beginning Monday night at the Gale Centre in Niagara Falls are a capable backup in net, some more defencemen to bolster the blue-line and a top-line forward. Osborne said he also is keeping an eye out for players with "hockey sense," but doubts he will find many, if any, who know how to play without the puck.

"Hockey sense is something you either have or you don't have. Usually, the ones who have it aren't playing in Junior B. If they have it, they're probably playing up," he said in esti-

imated that "only 2%" of players are blessed with the innate ability to "know where the puck will be."

Once again, skill and speed will trump size and strength as Hockey Canada rules restricting the clutching and grabbing of trap hockey have neutralized the need for Port Colborne to build a team suited to play the majority of its game on the smallest ice surface in the Golden Horseshoe Conference.

"When I first bought the team, we probably focused more on size because of our rink. With the bigger guys clutching and grabbing, it made our ice seem even smaller for our opponents," Tofoledo said.

Since the restrictions put such one-dimensional players on the endangered species list, the Pirates also project how their prospects will play on the larger ice surfaces in Port Erie, Stoney Creek and Thorold before completing their roster for the regular season.

"These days it's all come down to skill. You're looking at the best 22 skilled players. They have to have speed and they need to know how to size. The time when size ruled are over,"

Tofoledo said.

While only four of 14 returning players made the roster in Osborne's first full season as head coach, such a dramatic turnaround isn't expected. Though all players were warned at the outset of training camp that "spots are to be taken away," Tofoledo conceded that veterans from last year will have an edge making the 2010-11 lineup.

"These kids have had a full year to know the coaches and to know what's expected of them. They also have shown they want to play here and that they want to play junior hockey," Tofoledo said.

Expected back for a final season in the Junior B ranks are three 20-year-olds who all hail from the area: Centre Dillon River and defencemen John D'Onofrio are from Port Colborne and defencemen Cody Loeffler calls Wainfleet home.

Marcus Quinlin, 19, of Niagara Falls, will be counted upon to provide veteran leadership on defence with the Pirates eager to see what 17-year-old Charles Ezagume can do for an encore after being selected as rookie of the year.



JOE CSEH Tribune Photo
Port Colborne Pirates head coach Keith Osborne, centre, addresses prospects at the Junior B hockey team's training camp at Westside Arena. After finishing sixth in the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League's eight-team Golden Horseshoe Conference, the former NHL player is setting his sights on moving up to fifth or fourth in the standings.

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■ **BUSY:** Iron ore and steel shipments increase

Seaway traffic increases

In Port News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The St. Lawrence Seaway has been a busy place this summer.

And Port Colborne businesses that provide services to the ships travelling through the canal are seeing the benefit, said Mayor Vance Badaway.

In the first half of this year's shipping season, vessels have carried 16.6% more cargo through the waterway than a year earlier, the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corp. reported Tuesday.

The Seaway attributes the increase to demand for iron ore and steel, a media release said.

From March 25, when the Seaway began operations, to July 31, it reports that 14.8 million tonnes of cargo sailed through the waterway, which includes the Welland Canal. That's two million tonnes more than the amount of cargo shipped through the waterway a year earlier.

Badaway said his family business George Badaway Marine Ltd. has seen the difference this season.

"I think all the businesses that are in the marine transportation sector have seen increases this year, especially the ones I've talked to in the last couple months," he told The Tribune. "Everyone seems to be saying a better year than they saw last year."

Seaway president Richard



A ship passes through the Welland Canal.

Corfe called the increase "encouraging."

"Robust improvements within the break bulk sector provide reason for cautious optimism for tugs in shipments for the remainder of 2010," he said in the media release.

Despite the overall increase in tonnage, total shipments dropped by 4.8% during the

month of July, compared to a year earlier due to lower traffic of ships carrying coal and grain. But even during that month, the Seaway reports an increase of about 30% in iron ore shipments.

Badaway is optimistic that this summer's increase is an indication of things to come.

He said the multi-modal transportation the city

offers gives it a niche and an advantage for attracting new investment.

"Quite frankly, we are becoming more of an investment destination simply because of our transportation infrastructure which relates to roads, rail and water."

It also gives the city an advantage for attracting manufacturers, he added.

■ **HOCKEY**

Pirates host pre-season tourney

BERND FRANK
In Port News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Eight junior hockey teams, including two from western New York, will be competing in the inaugural Pirates Cup pre-season tournament that gets underway with two games Thursday night.

Westside Arena, where all the action in the four-day showcase for training camp prospects is scheduled to take place, will be the site of three games Friday night and seven on Saturday when the first faceoff is set for 8:30 a.m. Sunday's final begins at noon and features the top teams following pool play from each of the two four-team division.

Making up the North Division are the Brantford Golden Eagles, Dixie Beelives, Stoney Creek Warriors and Thorold Blackhawks, while the Buffalo Stars, Port Erie Meteors and Wheatfield Blades join the host Port Colborne Pirates in forming the South Division.

All games in the exhibition tournament, including Sunday afternoon's championship, will be three 15-minute, stop-time periods, said Pirates owner and general manager Tim Toffolo, the overall organizer of a tournament he hopes will become an annual event.

"For our team, and I suspect several others in this tournament, it's basically the last chance for the kids to show their stuff before the final rosters are set. For most teams, it's a chance to trim down their rosters," he said.

Since opening training

camp on Monday, Aug. 16, Port Colborne has already played three exhibition games against teams in the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League's Golden Horseshoe Conference and has won them all. Toffolo conceded while this has given head coach Keith Osborne and his staff of assistants Harry Dunn and Bryan Kelly a jump on separating the contenders from the pretenders, the competition for spots in the lineup remains open.

"Spots are always open. We've got a battle going for a lot of spots on this team," Toffolo said in underscoring the importance of the tournament as a vehicle for evaluating talent.

Admission for the Pirates Cup is \$10 for a day pass or \$20 for a tournament pass covering all 13 games.

Opening-night action has Port Colborne hosting Port Erie at 6 with the Dixie-Thorold game scheduled to begin at 7:30.

Friday night's tripleheader gets underway at 6 with Buffalo playing Wheatfield, followed by Brantford facing Dixie at 7:30 and wrapping up with Stoney Creek taking on Thorold at 9.

Featured in Saturday's lineup are Port Erie-Wheatfield, 8:30 a.m.; Buffalo-Port Colborne, 10 a.m.; Brantford-Stoney Creek, 11:30 a.m.; Port Colborne-Wheatfield, 2:30 p.m.; Buffalo-Port Erie, 4 p.m.; Brantford-Thorold, 5:30 p.m.; and Dixie-Stoney Creek, 7:30 p.m.

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PLAY SESSIONS

The Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre offers interactive play sessions, mornings Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and afternoons Monday to Thursday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. These programs are for children under the age of six years and their parent or caregiver and are free of

charge. Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Cares, 92 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne or call 905-834-9071 ext. 238 or email oeyc-pc@portcares.on.ca for more information.

INFANT MESSAGE

The Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre is offering an Infant Massage – Interactive Infant Program

on Monday, September 13, 20, 27 and October 4 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. This afternoon program is for infants and their parent/caregiver and is free of charge.

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■ **REVIEW:** The Owl and the Pussycat

Few surprises

GEORGE DUMA
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — There are few surprises with *The Owl and the Pussycat*. It's like going to Swiss Chalet and ordering the quarter chicken dinner. You know the chicken will be tender. You know the fries will be crisp or the salad fresh. You know the roll will be nice

and soft. You know the dipping sauce will be hot and a tad spicy. It's what you paid for — good, fresh tasty food without surprises. And hey, there's nothing wrong with that. Who doesn't like Swiss Chalet?

Most theatre and movie aficionados already know *The Owl and the Pussycat* story. Nerdy boy meets vivacious, loud girl, albeit through

bizarre circumstances. They hate each other at first — due to the bizarre circumstances under which they met — but, of course, eventually they end up in each other's arms.

Back in 1970, when Buck Henry wrote the screenplay for Bill Mander's play, the movie starred Barbra Streisand and George Segal. It was a chick flick before the term was an actual term. Showboat Festival Theatre is ending its 2010 season with this piece and it's a fun, mindless night out at the theatre. Is it Showboat's best production of the summer? Absolutely not, but it is what it is.

The Owl and the Pussycat

stars Niagara-on-the-Lake actors Bruce Davies and Alexis Koetting as Felix and Doris. The real-life couple was last seen at The Showboat Festival Theatre in *The Love List* in 2008.

As Felix and Doris, Davies and Koetting flow effortlessly through dialogue and they have an obvious, easy manner in the way they work together.

The play opens with Doris kicked out of her "room" across the way from Felix's apartment after Felix rats out the fact she's a hooker to Doris's superintendant.

"I'm a model and an actress," she insists.

And so it goes from there.

Set in the summer of 1964, *The Owl and the Pussycat* is definitely dated but that actually manages to give the play an unexpected charm.

For example, "fink" is a strong, nasty word when used to describe someone. Doris doesn't have the S3 she needs for a hotel room after being kicked out of her home, hence her appearance on Felix's doormat with 72 cents in her pocket. Felix, a wannabe writer, pounds out his material on an old manual typewriter. And the oven stove in Felix's apartment belongs in a museum.

The staging is executed extremely well.

Thom Currie, Showboat's artistic director, has demonstrated all summer how well he understands theatre-in-the-round. His blocking is impeccable.

The Owl and the Pussycat has been an audience favourite for decades. Showboat's staging of the comedy classic will do nothing to change that.

The Owl and the Pussycat continues its run until Sept. 4. For ticket information, call The Showboat Festival Theatre Box Office, 905-834-0633 (Toll Free 1-888-870-8181), www.showboattheatre.ca. All performances are at The Roselawn Centre Theatre in The Round.



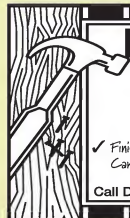
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■ **HELP:** Kits help children around the world

Annual school kit drive now underway

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — For children whose lives have been interrupted by war, disaster and poverty, school kits mean the possibility of a better future and the knowledge that people far away care about them. Ten Thousand Villages is once again collecting supplies for school kits, which will be sent by Mennonite Central Committee to children around the world.

Each kit contains four notebooks, four unsharpened pencils, a ruler, a large eraser and a package of 12 coloured pencils. These supplies are packed in hand-sewn fabric bags and distributed by Mennonite Central Committee partner agencies in schools and orphanages

in Haiti, Afghanistan, Iraq, Ukraine, Sudan and many other countries. More than 100,000 school kits are distributed every year.

"It is extremely rewarding to be part of a project that brings happiness, hope and encouragement to so many children and their families," said Tracy Tarran, assistant manager of the Ten Thousand Villages store in Port Colborne.

"In some countries children are not allowed to attend classes without school supplies and a Mennonite Central Committee school kit makes it possible for them to go to school. Our efforts to buy a few extra school supplies can make such a big difference in the lives of children."

Supporting education and

empowering families is in keeping with the goals and objectives of Ten Thousand Villages, a Fair Trade organization which purchases products from more than 130 artisan groups in over 35 countries, giving them fair value for their work.

"People are truly at the heart of what we do," said Tarran. "Our desire is to help give artisans the hope, dignity, joy and respect that come from earning a decent living."

This is the 15 year that Ten Thousand Villages has collected school kits for Tarran. The fabric bags and list of supplies are available at Ten Thousand Villages at 7 Clarence St. or visit www.ten-thousandvillages.ca or www.mcc.org/kits/school/ for more information.

■ **SHRINERS:** Funds help children

Cans for care

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Port Colborne-Welland Shriners are hoping to trade cans for care.

Club members recently set up several 200-litre drums at N.E.T. Camping Resort in Vineland with hopes of collecting empty aluminum cans to help children in need.

Throughout the year, Shriners work to collect cans so they can be crushed and sold, with proceeds going towards the club's Transportation Fund.

The fund is used to assist children travelling back and forth to receive medical treatment from the Shriners Hospitals for Children. The Shriners have two children's hospitals, one in Erie, Pa., and the other in Montreal, where youth receive care regardless of their family's ability to pay for costly medical procedures.

After a stint at N.E.T., the drums will be transported to



JOE CSEH Tribune Photo

N.E.T. Camping Resort, in Vineland, is playing host to several 200-litre drums, which Port Colborne-Welland Shriners hope to see filled with pop can donations. The cans will be crushed and sold, with proceeds going towards the Shriners Transportation Fund, which assists families travelling to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. From left are Shriners past presidents Dave Nolles and Arthur Gill, 1st vice-president Bill Foote, resort owners Tara and Tony Miklavic, Shriners president John Horton and ambassador Larry Peyton.

Bissell's Hideaway Camping Resort, where can donations will also be collected.

"People toss cans out in the garbage anyway," said Shriners past president Bill Foote.

He encouraged people to save their cans, knowing they're helping with the

"health and wellbeing" of children in need.

Businesses interested in hosting a drum or people looking to make a donation, which can be picked up, can contact Foote at 905-714-0285, Arthur Gill at 905-714-7212 or David Nolles at 905-735-1295.

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